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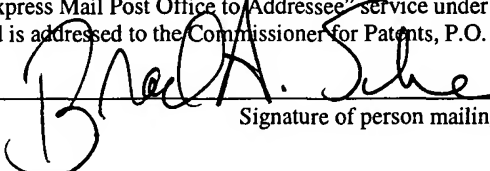
In re patent application of:)	Before the Examiner
Russell Powers et al.)	(unknown)
)	
Serial No. New)	Group Art Unit (unknown)
)	
Filed August 5, 2003)	August 5, 2003
)	
SURGICAL KIT AND METHOD FOR)	Ref. No. 4002-3357/PC934.00
PROVIDING STERILIZED EQUIPMENT)	
FOR USE IN SPINAL SURGERY)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure embodied in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Examiner the patents and publications listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement. This information has not been previously submitted in this application, and has not been heretofore cited by the Examiner. Copies of cited items are enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

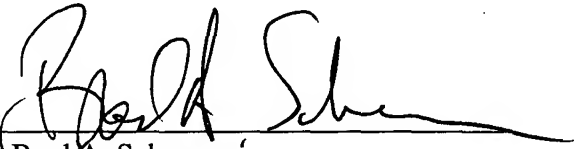
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Information Disclosure Statement
SURGICAL KIT AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING
STERILIZED EQUIPMENT FOR USE IN SPINAL SURGERY
Filed August 5, 2003
Inventors: Russell Powers et al.
Page 1 of 2

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is or is considered to be prior art or material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

This Statement is being submitted under 37 CFR 1.97(b) before the occurrence of one or more of the following: (a) receipt of a First Office Action on the merits, (b) passage of three (3) months from the application filing date, or passage of three (3) months from the date entry of the national stage. Accordingly, it is believed that no fee is due. However, should any fee be required, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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